

OUR BOYS

AND GIRLS



THE SAD ADVENTURES of MR. SNOW-MAN

BY ALICE LATIMER

WHEN Johnny, Isabel, Chauncey and Mary Louise finished making Mr. Snowman he was really quite perfect. He had a genuine silk hat that Uncle John had given to Isabel, and it was a perfectly good hat



except that it had been crushed in once upon a time by one of Uncle John's facetious friends so that it was not quite as high on one side as on the other. He had a whole row of coal buttons on his long ulster and a very fine new pipe in his mouth, and he had also a walking stick which Chauncey had brought from the woods the summer before.

So it is no wonder that when the snow fairy slid down from the frosty regions up beyond the clouds on a moonbeam that night she was much impressed by the stunning appearance of Mr. Snowman.

"But so few people can see you here," she said.

You see, Mr. Snowman occupied a sheltered position in the side yard, just beyond the veranda.

"That's perfectly true," said Mr. Snowman, mournfully. "I do think the children might have stood me up out front."

The snow fairy thought so hard for a moment that the icicles on her head-dress actually began to melt and drip down in what appeared to be tears.

"You shan't stay here where no one can see you when you are so very stunning looking," she said suddenly. "I am going

to let you get down off your pedestal and walk about."

Instantly she touched the Snowman on the black coal button that was the very middle one of the row on his ulster and the Snowman felt a strange melting sensation in his feet.

Up to that moment his feet had been

and gave the policeman a friendly poke in the ribs.

"Ouch, murder upon us, but what a cold night, and the snow almost smothering a man," wailed the policeman, and to the great disappointment of the Snowman, who had looked forward to a friendly chat, the policeman began running

But everywhere he went the people who were up early getting breakfast or shovelling off the snow or trying to get the baby to sleep turned the cold shoulder on the Snowman, shut the windows and doors or ran rapidly away.

At last the Snowman heard a cheerful clatter, and to his delight he saw the early morning milkman coming up the street.

The Snowman glided forward and caught the milkman just as he was delivering a bottle of milk at the very house where Johnny, Isabel, Chauncey and Mary Louise lived.

The Snowman held out both hands to the milkman, he was so glad to see him. "B-r-r-r!" cried the milkman, and instantly dropped the bottle of milk he was carrying.

"That was a cold blast," he muttered. "My hand froze fast all of a sudden."

The Snowman stood gazing at him sorrowfully, then he slowly went in at the side gate and found his old mound near the veranda.

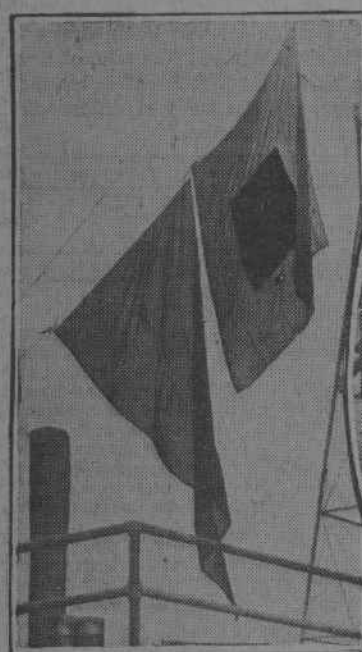
The snow fairy, who had been having a glorious time sliding up and down the moonbeams into little soft heaps of snow, greeted him in a surprised way.

"You back?" she questioned. "Why, I didn't expect you'd ever be willing to come back to the side yard again."

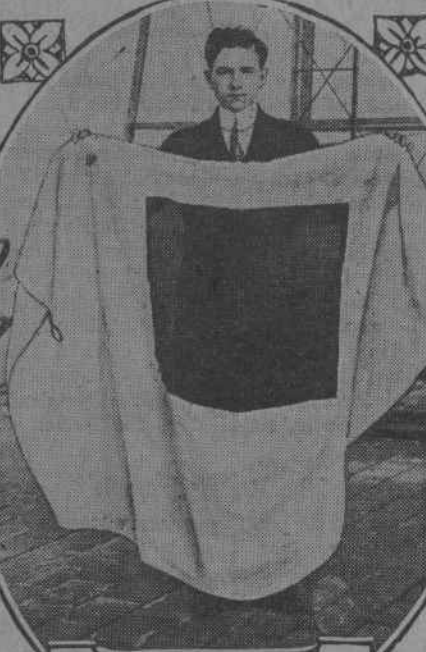
"It is a cold place outside," explained the Snowman, "and full of awfully cold people. Everybody that I met had the shivers and ran away from me."

He got slowly up on his mound and presently his feet had grown quite fast again, so that when the children got up several hours later they found him looking exactly as he had the day before.

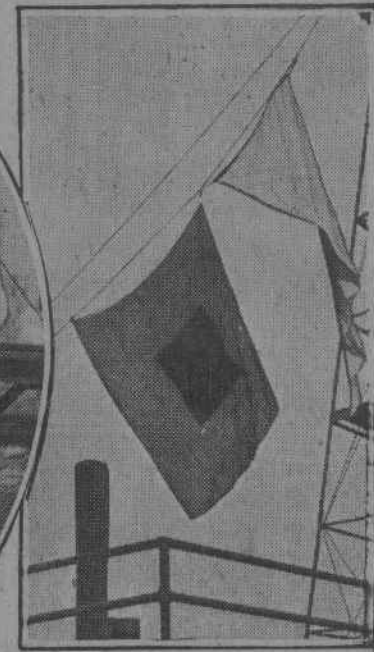
UNCLE SAM'S WEATHER BUREAU



Southeast Storm—Red Pennant and Red Square in Center



This Means Skating—Cold Wave—White Square, Black Centre



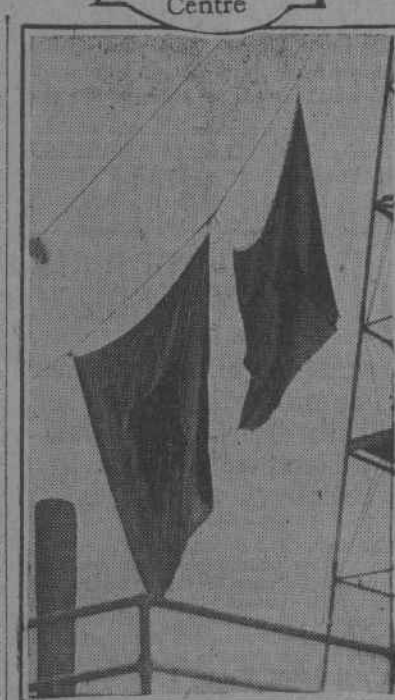
Northwest Storm—White Pennant and Red Square with Black Centre

TO most children the Weather Man is a sort of mythical individual who exists "somewhere" for the sole purpose of conjuring up bad spells of weather to prevent persons from enjoying themselves, for, generally speaking, it is only when the weather is exceedingly bad that one thinks of the Weather Man at all, and then only to wonder how he can be so unkind as to spoil any one's fun.

But the Weather Man is a very real personage after all, with headquarters Uncle Sam has provided for him in the National Capitol, at Washington, D. C., and branch bureaus in various parts of the country in charge of lieutenants, who forecast the weather for their own especial locality.

There is an anemometer to register the velocity of the wind; the telethermograph, which records the temperature; rain gauges, which register the fall to the one-thousandth of an inch, and many other equally interesting inventions, a description of which calls for expert knowledge.

High up at the top of the weather tower, which resembles the fighting mast of a battle ship, these instruments are kept. Here, also, are stored the weather flags, with messengers in attendance to run them up on a fifty foot flagpole the



Hurricane—Red Squares with Black Centres

minute a change takes place, so that they may be seen by vessels coming up the bay or departing outward bound, or by any boys or girls who take the trouble to raise their eyes to see—that is, if they are familiar with the various symbols peculiar to the service.

There are three weather flags which, used in connection with black pennants, vary with the general conditions which they represent. For fair weather there is very properly a white flag, for rain or snow a white and blue flag, the bars running lengthwise. The black pennant varies the weather according as it is used above or below any of the three described. For example, if used above the fair weather flag it denotes fair and warmer; if below, fair and colder. If above the rain or snow symbol, it means rain or snow, warmer, and if below, colder. It is the same with the third flag—the local rain or snow device.

A cold wave is indicated by a flag with a black square on a white ground. In addition to these there are a set of storm warnings which are indicated by red flags and pennants. The most striking of all is the hurricane warning, which sends terror to the heart of the mariner when he sees it. This consists of two red flags with black squares displayed one above the other, and it indicates the approach of a tropical hurricane or one of those extremely severe and dangerous storms which occasionally move across the lakes and Atlantic coast. One of these flags alone indicates that a storm of marked violence is expected.

Together with one of the hurricane flags there is used a set of pennants, which,

displayed in certain combinations, indicate the direction of the wind. For instance, if a red pennant is used above a hurricane or storm flag it still means that the storm is coming, but also that it will be accompanied by northeast winds. When the red pennant is used below, the winds are southeast. If a white pennant is displayed above the storm flag, then the winds are northwest, and if below, southwest.

Now, the Weather Man, knowing the velocity of the wind and its direction, can then figure out just about how long it will take for the storm to reach here. In addition to the land messages Weather Forecaster James Scarr, of New York, gets dilly reports from two thousand vessels, and he is now perfecting arrangements with the wireless companies of different countries whereby the bureau will receive daily reports from transatlantic steamships on their way across the ocean. Five or six reports will be received each morning.

"In addition to the transatlantic service we are also making arrangements with

so firmly attached to the round mound of snow on which he stood that he couldn't lift them at all, but now at the command of the snow fairy he stepped nimbly down from his mound and strode out of the front gate and through the streets of the town.

There were very few people about at that time, as you can imagine, for it was a cold winter night, but rather it was morning by this time, but still quite dark except for the moonbeams.

For a long time he met no one, and he was beginning to feel very lonely, when he saw coming along the street the village policeman, beating his arms across his chest to keep out the cold.

The Snowman was a friendly soul, and as he came up to the policeman he stretched out a huge white snow arm

vessels sailing in Southern waters to get reports twice a day, and this information will be of inestimable value during the hurricane season," said Mr. Scarr.

To some persons daily consultation with the Weather Man is a very necessary part of the day's routine. Take the produce men, for instance—merchants who deal in perishable goods like fruit and vegetables. They are obliged to keep daily tabs on the weather, so as to know how to protect their wares. It may be that a commission merchant has just loaded a cargo of potatoes which cannot be left over night. He must ship them immediately, so he calls up to know what the weather is to be for the next twenty-four hours, so that he may protect the consignment for transportation. Or it may be a man is wishing to send a cargo of fruit to some other point. He calls up and finds that there is to be zero weather; therefore he wraps his fruit to keep it from freezing.

Another line of business that depends on the weather forecasts is that of the salvage companies, those who make a business of saving wrecked vessels from total destruction. From this source the Weather Man has constant calls.

Then there are innumerable boys and girls who sometimes call up the Weather Man, especially about Christmas time, when new sleds are in the foreground, to know if there isn't any prospect of snow. This Christmas it was a great disappointment to the Weather Man's large youthful following that a good old fashioned snowstorm couldn't have been manufactured for the purpose. And one little girl went so far as to say she didn't see what was the good of having a Weather Man if he couldn't make the kind of weather you wanted, especially at Christmas. But, fortunately or unfortunately, that is just what this very important individual cannot do, though he is accused of it a good many times.

The Snowman Felt a Strange Melting Sensation in His Feet

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madly down the street.

The operator was fast asleep, but he started awake with a shiver. "Ugh," he winced, "there's a terrible blast coming through the cracks of that window. I'll try closing the shutters."

He opened the window for a moment, and pulled the shutters together before putting the window down with a slam.

The poor Snowman was left out in the night, with not even the warm gleam of the station lamp to cheer him up.

The Snowman wandered all over the village looking for friendly people.



It Broke in a Dozen Pieces and the Milkman Clattered Angriily Back to His Cart to Get Another

It broke in a dozen pieces and the milkman clattered angrily back to his cart to get another.

For the Doll Housekeeper.

A PALM for the doll's house can be made of green paper—crape paper is best—cut into strips along one side. Then roll up the paper, leaving the stripped ends out. Make a hollow tube of a strip of dark brown paper. This is for the lower part of the palm. Then into this hollow tube thrust the rolled up end of the green paper. The cut ends will then be at the top. When they are spread a little they look very much like palms. The round tube of brown paper should be pasted at the side. Because of its shape it will stand in a tiny box or bowl on the floor.

How to Make Chocolate Cream Mints.

Put into the pan one cup of granulated sugar, one-quarter cup of water and two drops of oil of peppermint. Cook until it crisps, when dropped into cold water. Then pour on a platter and beat until creamy. Drop on paper and cool. When cold and hard melt a quarter of a cake of chocolate over the tea kettle, sweeten a little and dip the mints into the melted chocolate.

A FLAT QUESTION

BY LOUISE E. DEW

If a flatter is one who lives in a flat,

Is a hatter one who lives in a hat?

And a batter one who lives in a bat?

And a ratter one who lives in a rat?

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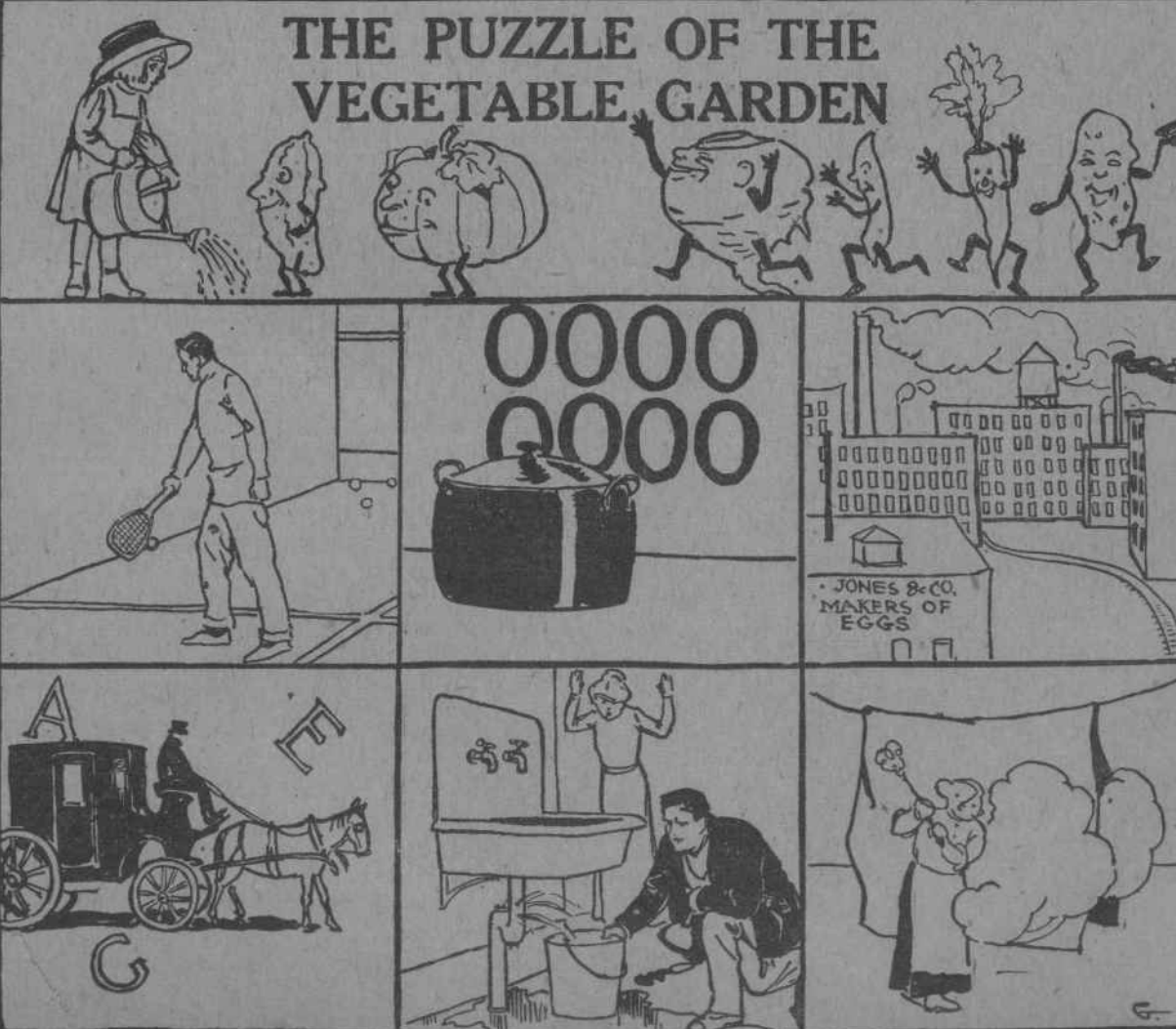
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THE PUZZLE OF THE VEGETABLE GARDEN



Each One of These Pictures Represents a Vegetable With Which You Are All Familiar

A JOURNEY IN PAINT BOX LAND

John and Susie Arrive in Sweden



JOHN and Susie, who are travelling in Paint Box Land, have now arrived in Sweden. The first person whom they see in Stockholm is little Elsa, a tiny girl of four, who has just come in from the country to spend the day. You may color Elsa with your water color paints or crayons. Her costume is of the sort worn by the Swedish peasants.

SKI SAILING, FAVORITE SPORT OF NORWEGIAN BOYS.

SAILING on skis is a sport dear to the hearts of Norwegian boys, but which has not been adopted very widely, if at all, by the boys of the United States. It is a most fascinating sport, but a dangerous and difficult one, for the heavy sail which the ski sailor carries at his back will carry him along at a terrific rate when there is anything of a wind, and will also topple him over and tangle him up with his skis if he is not an adept at handling the guide ropes. The sail is a huge affair, twice as wide as the skater is tall and correspondingly deep.

PUZZLE ANSWER.

The puzzling colors in last week's page for boys and girls were:—Black, maroon, slate, marine, navy, champagne, cardinal, ivory, wistaria and tan.